

Offsite is All Right...Even with a Tough Bite!

Team Cassidy-II Take Second Straight Offsite Tourney

It had been 10 years since the Picatinny Bassmasters took on Cranberry Lake in Byram, NJ as the location for their annual offsite tourney. And with the fickle bass reluctant to take in their assortment of lures, the field of 8 boats quickly remembered why it had been 10 years. With a full moon just 4 days before the tourney and rapidly warming waters, everyone expected to find plenty of fish up in the shallows spawning, but it wasn't to be. Some speculate that the rapid rise in water temps – over 10 degrees in just 2 days, may have turned off the bite. But last year's defending Angler of the Year, Tim Cassidy teamed with his brother Matt, and coaxed just enough keeper bass (3) to take their offering of Senkos to claim first place on this warm spring day. Tim and Matt's fish measured nearly 41 inches. They took advantage of the midday sun to position the fish in the shade along the eastern shoreline, accounting for their two final bites in the last hour of the tourney. This was their second straight offsite tourney, having won on Aeroflex this time last year.

Team Here Fishy Fishy – aptly named by Vance's granddaughter - AKA Team Chase welcomed the good luck provided by their new moniker to call in two keeper bass measured a combined 29.5 inches and held up for 2nd place. Brian landed the tournament lunker – a 16 inch bass – that took in his Texas-rigged Zoom Worm. And completing the leaderboard was Tim Prendergast and Jack Kinney who teamed to catch two bass measuring a total of 27.5 inches, good for third place.

So after just two tourneys there is a log jam at the top of the Angler of the Year Leaderboard with three anglers tied for first (Brian Chase, Tom Hartigan Jr and Tom Sr), and 10 others in close range (within 3 points). The current Big Tourney Bass of the Year belongs to Jim Huff at 3.2 pounds. But that isn't likely to hold up for long, as the tourney trail returns to the friendly confines of Picatinny Lake on 19 June for the next event. And remember – in order to qualify for post season honors (AoY) you have to be an active member of the PR&GA.

Picatinny Rod & Gun Assoc.
 Offsite Tourney
 When: Sunday 2 May, 0600-1200 hrs
 Where: Cranberry Lake

RESULTS

| | <u># Bass</u> | <u>Total Length</u> | <u>Big Bass</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Tim Cassidy & Matt Cassidy | 3 | 40.75" | 15.75" | 11 |
| 2. Vance Chase & Brian Chase | 2 | 29.5" | 16" | 11 |
| 3. Tom Prendergast & Jack Kinney | 2 | 27.5" | 15" | 7 |
| 4. Bob Smith & Brad Garie | 2 | 25.75" | 13" | 5 |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----|-----|--------|
| 5. Tom Hartigan & Tom Hartigan Sr. | 1 | 12" | 12" | 4 4 |
| 5. Sal Longo & Joe Longo | 1 | 12" | 12" | 4 4 |
| 7. Jim Huff & Todd Rielly | 0 | | | 1 1 |
| 7. Click Schreck & Mark Keck | 0 | | | 1 1 |

Lunker Bass – Brian Chase, 16" Largemouth